

# News Release

## *DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:**

Visitor Center 712/388 4800

### **Fall Migration Program Series at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge**

**Missouri Valley, Iowa** – Join refuge staff at the DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center for the Fall Migration Program Series at 10am on Saturdays and at 1pm on most Sundays in November. All programs are family friendly and each one stands on its own, so feel free to attend each one or attend them all. Programs will begin with an inside presentation and afterwards participants will head out onto the refuge to view and identify migratory birds in their natural habitats. Bring your own equipment or use ours – binoculars, field guides, and spotting scopes will be available for use with each program. We encourage participants to dress appropriately to be outside.

*Birding Basics* on November 7 and 8 will focus on the basics of bird identification using binoculars, field guides, and simple techniques for identifying birds in the wild. *Advanced Birding* on November 14 and 15 will review the basics of bird identification, participants will learn about the role that refuges play during bird migration, where to look for birds, how to get involved in citizen science projects, and more. *Wetland Basics and Duck Math* on November 21 and 22 will answer the question, “What makes DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge an ideal stopover for migratory birds?” Join a refuge ranger to learn about wetland habitat management and how it benefits migratory birds. *Wetland Food Cycles* on November 28 (Saturday only) will explore the complex web of life in refuge wetlands. Participants will be able to make connections between the water, plants, and wildlife that use wetlands for a portion or all of their life cycle.

An entrance permit is required for all vehicles on days other than fee free days. The daily entrance fee for private vehicles is \$3.00. Permits may be obtained at the fee stations near the entrance or at the Visitor Center. The charge for commercial vans and buses is \$20, or \$30 if 21 or more people are aboard. Annual permits, including the \$15 DeSoto Refuge Pass, can be purchased at the visitor center.

The nation’s 563 national wildlife refuges and 38 wetland management districts welcomes over 45 million visitors each year. Visitors participate in activities such as fishing, hunting, wildlife observation, birding, interpretive hikes, and photographing iconic wildlife in their natural setting.

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges are located north of Omaha, Nebraska. DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge is located south of U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and Blair, Nebraska. Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge, managed by staff at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, is located east of U.S. Highway 75 near Ft. Calhoun, Nebraska. Check our websites, [www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/) or [www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer\\_chute/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/boyer_chute/), for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges. For more information please contact 712/388-4800 or email the refuge at [desoto@fws.gov](mailto:desoto@fws.gov).

The mission of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov).

